

## LAY UP TREASURES.

Olive Harper marvels at the bargains in the retail stores.

[Special Correspondence.]

NEW YORK, Aug. 9.—Just now all the retail stores are making desperate efforts to sell off the summer materials and made up gowns, as the hard times have left them all with a great quantity of unsold stock. There are pretty duck suits, neatly made and with three pieces, selling at \$1.25 for the entire suit. The material alone would cost nearly twice that amount. From the present outlook it would be good policy for thrifty women to buy one or two of these suits for next season if not for this. The fashion for standard makes does



SAILOR SUIT AND WALKING COSTUME.

Not change enough to put them out of date next summer. It is not only the duck suits that are offered so cheap, but a wide choice of other made up dresses, waists and light jackets, all of them safe to be worn next season with possibly a few slight alterations.

The lightweight woollens and silks are almost given away, and there is such a remarkable fall in prices that it becomes a duty to mention the fact. In a dozen stores pretty wrappers, nicely made, can be bought now for 75 cents, and so on upward according to quality, any or all of them worth double the money now. Next season they may be worth triple the amount. The washable dresses are apt to look soiled after a season's handling on the counters and must be sold for what they will bring, but a laundress can in half a day restore one to its pristine freshness. Therefore those who can and who like to lay up treasures for a rainy day would do well to buy now. I give this advice partly from the feeling that I would like to go and buy up several of these things which are sold so cheap on account of the stringency of the times and can't for the very same reason.

A few new model gowns are now arriving from abroad and being copied as rapidly as possible. I find variety enough in the detail, but much sameness in the general effect. There was one quaint dress made of damier, with a straight, gathered skirt, with a row of blue ribbon around the bottom to match the darker stripes in the goods. The French waist was belted in under a blue velvet belt. The sleeves were moderate puffs above turn-down caps at the elbow. There was a figure outlined by bands of the ribbon and short epaulets on the shoulder. With this is to be worn a large poke bonnet of navy blue rough straw, with dark blue velvet bows and a gilt buckle, the queer looking crown setting up high and round and the bonnet coming down over the ears.

A fin de siècle boating suit has a white serge skirt trimmed with narrow blue braid. It opens down the front and lays in godets in the back. The balloon shaped gigots droop very low under a hideous cape collar of white serge, overlaid with a collar and revers of blue serge. A white canvas cap is the proper thing for this suit in the way of head covering. Both of these gowns have the undeniable features of the 1830 style.

A very handsome gown of plaited black silk is not so easily classified. Around the bottom of the skirt is a row of jet beads sewed directly on the edge,



NEW GOWNS FOR EARLY FALL.

and on each plait is sewed a line of beads. The Russian blouse waist is trimmed in a similar manner. The sleeves have shirtings of moire over a deep lace fall, which covers the black moire puffed sleeves. Cherry velvet ribbon 3 inches wide is used very effectively as garniture. The hat is of black velvet covered with large plumes.

The overskirt style also has its examples. One very striking gown had the lower skirt of striped novelty, drab and brown, the stripes being horizontal. Around the bottom of the skirt were narrow rows of seal brown velvet ribbon. There was a long overskirt of brown camel's hair lined with novelty. This was doubled outward and brought up to the waist line in the back on each side and left to fall in natural folds. The waist and gigot sleeves were of the brown, and the plaited cape was of novelty. The front portion of the overskirt was all brown. The whole made a very unusual dress and a stylish one. The collar was of black velvet, and around the waist was a belt made of rose plaited velvet, a novel arrangement.

OLIVE HARPER.

## Prevailing Woman.

It is interesting to note the trades and professions into which women are more and more finding their way as a matter of course. An up town stamp agency of the postoffice has recently come into the care of a young woman, and in politeness, promptness and care she is a happy contrast to the man that preceded her. Some small telegraph offices in various parts of the town are in the care of women, and the faces behind the instruments are usually of a kind to make one glad that women have taken to telegraphy.

It is not unusual to find young women in charge of coal yards about town, evidently attending to sales as well as keeping books. A newly established ticket office on the New York Central's Harlem division has been put in care of a young woman, who already has a budding acquaintance with half the patrons of the office. She occupies her leisure with novels and poetry and is an object of interest to all that come and go at the station.

Two young women at Mount Vernon drive a delivery wagon and get about with businesslike dispatch.—New York Sun.

## Catherine Drexel.

A woman of much business ability is Catherine Drexel, now a nun. As a young woman she had control of a great fortune, and, what is more, she spent it after her own fashion, which, for the most part, was in the way of philanthropy. She is a fervent Catholic, and much of her wealth went to found and support missions among the negroes in the south, in whom as a southern woman she felt an interest. It was through this work that she herself was led to become a nun. It was not to be expected that such a woman would immerse herself in a subordinate place in some obscure convent. Instead she used her standing and influence to secure permission to establish a new order of nuns of which she was to be head. She had her way. She retained full control of her own money. She followed her own plans with regard to her order and spent her money in furtherance of them. The new order, of which Miss Drexel is superior, is now fully established, and the fact is due to her fine business qualities.—Brooklyn Citizen.

## Her Wicker Handbag.

One of the indispensables for summer travel, especially for busy women whose only vacation consists of flying trips to seashore or mountain, is a lightweight valise or telescope bag. The name of perfection in this line of requisites is supplied by the oblong wicker baskets to be found in Chinese and Japanese shops. As they come in nests, any size desired may be obtained, from the very small ones which will carry only a lunch and a favorite volume to the large but not weighty affairs which will hold all the garments and other essentials for a several days' sojourn. The baskets, snugly fitted together, are held by a substantial shawl strap, and this convenient arrangement costs less than \$2. Any able-bodied woman, old or young, can easily carry one and still have strength enough left to rise up and call blessed the intelligent person who adapted a foreign article to the use of the independent American woman.

## Fair Woman's Latest Whim.

The tiny kid pouch with a metal clasp which mademoiselle guards so carefully in her shopping expeditions is not valuable in her estimation for the dimes and dollars it contains, but because of the beauty aids so snugly tucked away in its discreet little pocket. There is a small, ivory handled pad, filled with her favorite powder or a bit of a puff which unceremoniously shows its powdery contents, a morsel of a mirror and just the daintiest little silver or tortoise shell comb. The purse itself is too small to even hint of the existence of these articles, but they are there all the same and add not a little to their owner's comfort by remedying a shiny nose, wind blown tresses and the like.

## Antoinette Sterling.

Antoinette Sterling is becoming a familiar figure upon the platform at the great temperance meetings. She speaks sometimes, though not at any great length. Most often her speech is merely a brief introduction to her song. On these occasions she usually sings without any accompaniment. It is very interesting to see the great singer come forward so simply, as she does, quietly dressed, with no music in her hand, at one of the packed Exeter hall meetings, and by means of her beautiful voice holding the dense throng breathless with attention. Coming as an interlude in impassioned speaking, to the excited crowd the effect is usually delightful.—London Letter.

## The Refrigerator.

It is a wise plan to keep a little powdered charcoal on a plate in your refrigerator during the hot weather, and if anything is spilled to wipe the sides and bottom at once with a cloth wrung out of lukewarm water containing a small quantity of sweet spirits of niter. Not more than a teaspoonful should be used to 4 quarts of water. Scalding out the refrigerator usually means a great waste of ice, and if done at all it should be done in time enough to allow every part to cool before putting in a fresh supply of ice. If there is no time for that, rinse in cold water and add sal soda to that which you pour in the drain pipe. Often it is sufficient to clean it with a swab and rinse only with cold water.—New York Post.

## The Higher Education.

Says Mr. Howells in his latest book: "The higher education is part of the social ideal which we have derived from the past from Europe. It is part of the provision for the life of leisure, the life of the aristocrat, which nobody of our generation leads except women. Our women really have some use for the education of a gentleman, but our men have none."



FOR COUNTRY MORNING WEAR.

The figure at the right shows a figured mousseline de laine trimmed with shirtings, puffs and narrow guimp. The center figure shows a little girl's frock of dark blue serge braided with tan colored soutache. The guimp is of white lawn. The figure on the left shows an elegant morning robe of blue cloth with a richly braided jacket and sleeves, blue under gold. The front is gracefully draped and held by blue watered ribbon. The loose caps to the sleeves are of blue china crepe. The hat is almost a mob, and is of shirred mull.

## Discovered.

The swarthy man in the long cloak seized him roughly by the arm. Despite his effort to be calm, he trembled violently. His lips were livid and his face as pale as marble.

"Are you positive," he demanded fiercely, "that you have seen her face before?"

"I am."

"Good! Where?"

The dark cheek was aflame with passion now.

"Here," answered the drug clerk, "when I sold her maid the raw materials."

No! he was not aware that he had ever seen the lady herself—only her face.—Detroit Tribune.



"Oh, Mr. Longhead, I just saw Chas. Greyson eloping with your wife!"

"Good! Now I'm even with him. He sold me a horse last week."—Life.

## Her View of It.

A certain Boston gentleman, who has for many years been identified with Bar Harbor, and who dearly loves a good story, relates one which seems an excellent specimen of genuine Yankee wit—unconscious and droll. In the early season it was discovered that the chimney of one of the hotels was on fire, and the proprietor, a native of the village, climbed to the roof and succeeded in subduing the flames. In his efforts he slipped and fell. Fortunately he had just been preparing the ground for a garden, and he landed in a nice soft spot, breaking no bones, but shaking himself up considerably, as he is past his youth. He was picked up insensible, and when he recovered his only fear was that he had disturbed some of his guests. He was confined to his room for some time, and the Boston gentleman referred to, who owns the hotel property, called to see the old gentleman and congratulate him upon his narrow escape from serious injury. His wife was in attendance on the invalid, and after the accident had been discussed, both taking a decidedly doleful view of the case, their caller tried to cheer them up by speaking of the prospects for a busy season.

"I shouldn't wonder," said he, "if we had to build a new wing to the hotel."

"Well," said the proprietor's wife, "I ain't interested in a new wing for the house. I'm thinking how near he came to having two new wings."—Boston Transcript.

## A Shade Too Accurate.

Gentleman (to new servant)—Here is the list of invitations. Those underlined are married couples and must be addressed Mr. So-and-so and wife.

Gentleman (next day)—Did you look after the invitations?

Servant—Yes, sir.

Gentleman—Did you add the words "and wife" to those sent to married people?

Servant (triumphantly)—Yes, sir, and I wrote "without a wife" on the others.—Truth.

Well Answered.

A convert to Christianity in Syria who was urged by his employer to work

on Sunday declined. "But," said the employer, "does not your Bible say that if a man has an ox or an ass that falls into a pit on the Sabbath day he may pull him out?" "Yes," answered the convert, "but if the ass has the habit of falling into the same pit every Sabbath day then the man should either fill up the pit or sell the ass."—New York Tribune.

## Best of All.

First Girl—I like a man with a past. A man with a past is always interesting.

Second Girl—That's true, but I don't think he's nearly so interesting as the man with a future.

Third Girl—The man who interests me is the man with a present, and the more expensive the present is the more interest I take in it.—Boston Budget.

## A Sweet Consoler.

Edith—If Jack Barlow were to propose to me, I wouldn't know whether to say "Yes" or "No."

Maud—Well, don't worry, dear. I accepted him last night.—Life.

## Song of the Trolley Car.

I come from haunts of busy men, Past avenue and alley.

I circle in and out again With many a merry and mally.

I am my aisles cheek full of men, Though hot as Tophet be it.

I run pell-mell, the twanging bell— My laugh—men do not see it.

A nickel for a strap, you know, Is really very clever.

For men may come and men may go, But I go on forever.

Some cranky people half believe, Because they pay a nickel, They should for it a cent receive.

Such joys a sphinx would tickle. But while a few may kick perhaps And think it isn't funny It is the one who cling to straps Who "bug the stacks of money."

And men may swear and tear their hair And say they're quite disgusted, But I'll go right along whenever The trolley isn't busted.

—Structure Post.

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